

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus comprising:

a plurality of optical fiber splices, each connecting optical fiber segments,

a first retainer, said first retainer including a first arcuate-shaped storage channel for retaining more than one of said plurality of splices.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first retainer further includes:

a first element, said first element having a convex surface forming a bottom portion of said first channel, and

a second element, said second element having a concave surface forming a top portion of said first channel and retaining more than one of said plurality of optical fiber splices in said first channel between said first and second elements.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said first retainer further includes:

a second arcuate-shaped storage channel for storing more than one of said plurality of splices, wherein said second channel is radially spaced from said first channel with respect to a longitudinal axis parallel to longitudinal axes of said plurality of splices.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said first retainer further includes:

a third element, said third element having a concave surface forming a top portion of said second channel, and said second element having a convex surface forming a bottom portion of said second channel.

5. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

a cylindrically shaped joint box, and said first retainer is located in said joint box.

6. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said more than one of said plurality of splices in said first channel are secured in a static position in said first channel, and said more than one of said plurality of splices in said second channel are secured in a static position in said second channel.

7. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said joint box further includes:

a middle section,

a center shelf, said center shelf divides said middle section into first and second compartments,

and

said first retainer is positioned on said center shelf in said first compartment.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said joint box further includes:

a second retainer, said second retainer is positioned on said center shelf in said second compartment.

9. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said center shelf longitudinally divides said middle section.

10. The apparatus of claim 5 further comprising:

a fiber optical network, wherein said plurality of splices and said joint box are part of said fiber optical network.

11. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said first element includes:

a center step, and

end steps in the lateral ends of said first element, wherein

said center step and said end steps extend the length of said first retainer and contact said second element.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said first retainer further includes:

a third arcuate-shaped storage channel angularly spaced from said first channel, wherein said third channel retains more than one of said plurality of splices, and said first and third channels are separated by said center step.

13. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said second element is removably attached to said first element, and said third element is removably attached to said second element.